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For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(10 marks)

1. _____ the fact that she was unwell, Mary cycled under the scorching sun to visit the doctor.

- (1) As a result of
- (2) Due to
- (3) Notwithstanding
- (4) Unless

(1) 3

2. The current in the seas look rough today. It would be challenging to swim _____ it.

- (1) over
- (2) with
- (3) under
- (4) against

(4)

3. These oranges ^{are} sweet and juicy, _____ they?

- (1) aren't
- (2) don't
- (3) didn't
- (4) weren't

(1)

4. My grandparents ^{plural} _____ from Malaysia ^{pr} tomorrow to attend my cousin's wedding dinner.

- (1) arrive
- (2) is arriving X
- (3) are arriving
- (4) have arrived

(3)

5. By the time my father ^{ppr} comes home, we _____ doing our homework.

- (1) finish
- (2) finished X
- (3) have finished
- (4) will have finished X

(3) 4

6. During winter, some animals hibernate and also depend _____ their thick fur for warmth.

- (1) at
- (2) in
- (3) on
- (4) with

(3)

7. _____ being blind, Helen went on to attend University.

- (1) In spite
- (2) Despite
- (3) Because
- (4) Although

(2)

8. Siew Kim did not reach school on time this morning _____ she had woken up late.

- (1) if
- (2) as
- (3) so
- (4) but

reason

(2)

9. If she had listened to her mother, this would not _____ happened.

- (1) has
- (2) had
- (3) have
- (4) having

base

(3)

10. My father ^{pa} was taking a bath when the telephone _____

- (1) ring
- (2) rang
- (3) rings
- (4) ringing

(2)



For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(5 marks)

11. The speaker attempted to _____ his audience by telling them a story.

- (1) enhance
- (2) engage
- (3) enthrall
- (4) entertain

(3) 4

12. These fairy tales have been _____ for many generations. We have all read about them when we were young.

- (1) passed up
- (2) passed by
- (3) passed out
- (4) passed down

(4)

13. Alvin looked _____ and filthy after he slipped and fell down the muddy slope.

- (1) uncouth
- (2) irregular
- (3) misshapen
- (4) dishevelled

(4)

14. Youths below the age of 21 are _____ from entering the casino.

- (1) prevented
- (2) prohibited
- (3) persecuted
- (4) prosecuted

(2)

15. I am concerned about Camy. She seems very _____ and does not seem to want to socialise with her classmates.

- (1) isolated
- (2) deserted
- (3) withdrawn
- (4) abandoned

(3)

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). (5 marks)

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When it comes to intelligence, human beings are the top dogs of the animal kingdom. In modern times, however, scientists have been (16) recording evidence of astonishing intelligence and emotional depth in animals (17) varying from humble honeybees to thundering elephants. Through studies in labs and research in the wild, scientists have found animals (18) communicating complicated ideas, resolving problems, using tools and expressing their emotions - behaviours once thought to be (19) peculiar only to humans.

The intelligence we are discussing about is more than, say, training a dog to detect cancer in humans, an accomplishment that may save many lives. It is the skill of the animal to use an innate (20) trait for a complex function.

16. (1) noting
(2) copying
(3) transcribing
(4) documenting

(4)

17. (1) listing
(2) ranging
(3) spanning
(4) differentiating

(2)

18. (1) relating
(2) interacting
(3) exchanging
(4) transmitting

(2) 3

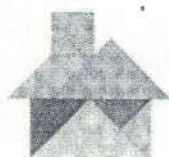
19. (1) unique
(2) special
(3) implicit
(4) particular

(1)

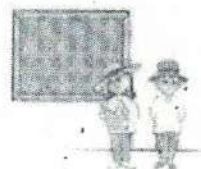
20. (1) identity
(2) behaviour
(3) personality
(4) characteristic

(4)

BRAINY KIDS



PLAYHOUSE OPEN HOUSE



Join us from Friday to Sunday, from 2nd – 5th Jan at our newest PRESCHOOL branch.

Your kids will love taking their first steps towards formal education!!

Our enrichment programme for 3 to 6 years olds foster a safe, friendly and stimulating environment which includes:



NUMERACY



LANGUAGE / PHONICS



PRACTICAL LIFE SKILLS



CREATIVE ART



BOTANY & BIOLOGY



MOTOR SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT

We are accepting registration for classes starting 6th January 2015.

Location: 35 Mandai Tree Road (near AFG Building and Mui Kim Road Intersection)

Time: 9 am – 6 pm

For more information on registration, please call
Timothy Cheong at 67775433 or visit our website at
www.brainykids.com.sg.

FREE School Starter Kit –
register your child when
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attractive school bag.

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Brainykids Playhouse X

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MISSION STATEMENT

Our preschool aspires to develop each child to be

1. A ~~confident~~ person who thinks independently and critically, and communicates effectively.
2. A learner who takes responsibility for his/her own learning, who perseveres in the pursuit of learning.

ROLE OF OUR TEACHERS

Teachers serve as facilitators, using their knowledge to enhance learning and development. They scaffold children's learning experiences based on the understanding of their interests and abilities.

OUR CURRICULUM

NUMERACY

When children first enter preschool, they bring with them experiences about numbers as well as encounters with shapes and space. In helping them to hone their skills in numeracy, our teachers build on these experiences by planning activities that enable the children to relate what they already know and can do, to what teachers want them to learn.

Knowledge/ Skill	Examples of activities
Counting	Writing numerals 1 to 10
Recognising Simple Patterns	Reproducing a given repeated pattern using pattern blocks
Spatial Concepts	Using blocks to make simple figures from basic shapes

MOTOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Motor skills are necessary in many aspects of life. The development of these skills affects physical fitness and agility, which in turn influence children's health and mastery of self-help skills.

Knowledge/ Skill	Examples of activities
Gross Motor Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving bigger movements • Using the large muscles 	Running Kicking Balancing Stretching Jumping Throwing
Fine Motor Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving small movements • Using smaller muscle groups 	Fastening <u>Drawing</u> Tearing Cutting

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.
(8 marks)

21. 'Preschool children' refer to children who _____

- (1) cannot read and write
- (2) are healthy and physically fit
- (3) enjoy enrichment programmes
- (4) have not entered schools for formal education

(4)

22. Lessons on _____ will appeal to children who love nature.

- (1) practical life skills
- (2) botany and biology
- (3) motor skills development
- (4) language and phonics

(2)

23. The school starter kit would be presented to _____

- (1) any child registering on 5th January
- (2) all children reading the advertisement
- (3) only selected children in the preschool
- (4) all children from 3 to 6 years of age

(3)

1

24. Which one of the following statements is true?

- (1) Free gifts are given to all guests at the Open House.
- (2) Timothy Cheong is registering on the Open House days.
- (3) Brainykids Playhouse offers only preschool education.
- (4) Interested parties can make enquiries through the website only after 5th January.

(3)

25. The aim of Brainykids Playhouse is to develop each child to be _____

- (1) imaginative and caring
- (2) conceited and active
- (3) confident and diligent
- (4) decisive and capable

(3)

26. The word 'scaffold' refers to how teachers _____ children's learning experiences.

- (1) hasten
- (2) support
- (3) control
- (4) plan

(4)

2

27. To enable children to develop numeracy skills, what is the role of teachers?

- (1) Demonstrating how to write numerals 1 to 10
- (2) Helping children to relate what they already know and can do, to what the teachers want them to learn
- (3) Providing blocks to make simple figures from basic shapes
- (4) Reproducing a given repeated pattern using pattern blocks

(2)

28. Which of the following activities can be conducted to enable children to develop fine motor skills?

- (1) Running
- (2) Stretching
- (3) Throwing
- (4) Drawing

(4)



There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) a	(D) at ✓	(G) off	(K) through	(N) where ✓
(B) an	(E) from	(H) out ✓	(L) to ✓	(P) which ✓
(C) any	(F) of ✓	(J) some ✓	(M) under ✓	(Q) with ✓

We all hate ants, cockroaches and bugs. However, there is no need to kill them (29) (Q) M strong chemicals that may also harm you in the long run. One simple substitute is to have (30) (J) soapy water in a spray bottle and spray this at ants and cockroaches. To discourage ants, set out cucumber peels or slices in the kitchen. Ants have a natural aversion (31) (D) L cucumber and bitter cucumbers seem to work best. Alternatively, dried, crushed mint leaves or cloves also work as (32) B (L) ant deterrent.

Pandan leaves can keep cockroaches (33) (M) D bay. A single pandan leaf tied up in a knot will do. If you do have one of those cockroach-killing sprays, make sure you store it (34) (H) of harm's way and try not to use it in the kitchen (35) (N) it can settle on surfaces and leach into your food.
 place →

As for garden bugs, hold (36) (G) on pesticide and make a garlic spray instead. The recipe: Puree 15 garlic cloves and one pint (37) (F) E water in a blender, strain the mixture (38) (F) Q cheesecloth into a clean spray bottle and apply to all leaves. Repeat every few days until the problem goes away.

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

133

(39)

novel
normal

Exercise as an antidote to depression and anxiety is not a novel concept. In 18th century

(40)

laborious
various

Scotland, doctors in institutes prescribed laboriously farm chores as "the best medicine" for

(41)

significant

their patients and documented significant improvements in mood and behaviour. Now,

(42)

between

scientists are studying the relationship at exercise and mood changes and are reaping some

(43)

fascinating
faircinating

results.

(44)

performed

The key is moderate exercise, performing a minimum of 30 minutes, three or four times a

(45)

tend

week. People who exercise regularly tended to be more flexible. They experience less stress

on their muscles and joints when they do bend down the wrong way. It is the couch potato who

only hauls himself on Saturday afternoon to do some housework who has problems.

(46)

managing

(47)

employing

The major issue we all face today is manage stressful lifestyle. By employing simple

(48)

eliminate

relaxation techniques, exercising and making modifications to our lifestyles, we can eliminate

stress and take control of our lives! Walking is one of the best exercises. It facilitates the

(49)

have
hass

circulation of blood throughout the body, and thus have a direct effect on your overall health.

Jogging, swimming and other rigorous exercises will strengthen a person both physically and

(50)

mentally
mantaly

mentaly.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

My life as a pintsized person is filled with tales. A lot of inquisitive children like to ask me questions and I have to (51) explain to them why I look different from the rest. It has taken numerous years of building up my self-confidence to be able to (52) overcome that. It takes only (53) small one glance to notice my peculiarity. I am now 39 years old and I stand 108 centimetres (54) tall.

When I was born, my mother was told that I was a dwarf. Not understanding much about dwarfism, my mother's main worry was my health. Our doctor put her mind at (55) ease when he assured her that I would not need any major medical treatment.

When I was growing (56) up, my parents encouraged me to participate in all the activities the kids around me did. When my neighbours received their two-wheel bikes, I got a bike. When they swam in the pool, I did too.

I did not realise how undersized I was (57) until when I started school. There, a few kids (58) picked on me calling me names. After that, I began to abhor the (59) first day of school each semester. I did not know who was new and would gawk as I struggled to (60) climb the school bus stairs. "You're a pygmy!" some teased.

As time progressed, I just tried to smile and accept the reality that I was going to be scrutinised my whole (61) life. I was driven to make my individuality an advantage rather than a (62) disadvantage. When I lacked in height, I made up for in personality - my ability to laugh, even (63) express myself at.

Up till today, the gapes have not abated. People ask my friends if I (64) lived in a doll house. It is the children's queries that make my life extraordinary. "Why are you so tiny? How old are you? Are you a freak?" When I chat with children, they leave contented that their questions have been (65) answered. My faith is that in taking time with them, I will inspire them to accept their peers, whatever size and form they come in, and treat them with respect.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

135

66. Keith does not like to go for a walk. He likes to watch television.

Keith likes ~~rather~~ watching television than

67. I visited Tim at the hospital although it was raining heavily.

I visited Tim at the hospital despite the heavy rain

68. Vicky said to me, "Don't make fun of my brother!"

Vicky warned me not to make fun of her brother.

69. I would rather eat a banana cake than drink a cup of papaya milk.

I would prefer eating a banana cake to drinking a cup of papaya milk.

70. The police arrested the serial burglar. They acted on a tip-off from a member of the public.

Acting on ~~on~~ a tip-off from a member of the public, the police arrested the serial burglar.

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

Q80(i)

At the age of twenty-six, my grandfather entered into an arranged marriage through a professional match-maker. My fifteen year old grandmother came from an eminently suitable Shanghai family. Across the street from my great-grandfather's tea-house, her father owned a small herbal store filled with desiccated leaves, roots, powdered rhinoceros horns, deer antlers, dried snakes' gall bladders and other exotic potions. The bride and the groom only saw each other on their wedding day in 1903. On the eve of her wedding, my grandmother was summoned into her father's presence. "Tomorrow you will belong to the Yen family," she was told. "Your duty will be to please him and your in-laws. Sublimate your own desires." Next day, the trembling bride, bedecked in a red silk gown and her face covered with a red silk cloth, was borne into the home of her parents-in-law in a red and gold sedan chair. The wedding procession was a colourful, noisy affair accompanied by red lanterns, banners, trumpet-blowing and the clanging of gongs. It was a point of honour for families to impoverish themselves for such occasions. However, in the case of my grandparents, friends and relatives gave wedding presents including large cash gifts to defray the costs.

The young bride's fears were misplaced because my grandfather proved to be loving and considerate. At her insistence, the young couple broke with tradition and moved out of the Yen family into their own rented quarters. My grandmother taught herself Mathematics

and used it to her great advantage in her daily mahjong games. I remember her as a chain-smoker with bound feet, short hair and a razor-sharp tongue. At the age of three,

Grandmother's feet had been wrapped tightly with long, narrow cloth bandage, forcing four lateral toes under the big toe so that only the big toe protruded. This bandage was tightened daily for a number of years, squeezing the toes painfully inwards and permanently arresting the foot's growth in order to achieve the tiny feet so prized by Chinese men. Women were in effect crippled and their inability to walk with ease was a

symbol of both their subservience and of their family's wealth. Grandmother's feet caused her pain throughout her life. Later, she braved social ridicule rather than inflict this suffering on her own daughter.

My grandparents grew to love each other and had seven children in quick succession. Of those, only the first two survived. My grandfather supported his family by buying and leasing out a small fleet of sampans (burn boats) which plied the waters of Shanghai's busy Huangpu River. Goods were ferried in and out of China's interior and loaded on to giant ocean cargo steamers moored at the Bund. My grandfather never gambled or wasted his money in brothels and opium dens. By the time he was forty, he had accumulated considerable wealth. My grandfather had a secret. Unknown to all, he was prone to seasickness and hated to set foot on one of his sampans. So though business was profitable, he decided to sell it and move up north.

71. Why did the father of the bride summon her to his presence the night before the wedding?

[2 m] The father told her that

"Tomorrow you will belong to the Yen family," she said. "Your duty will be to please him and your in-laws. Sublimate your own desires."

-1

72. Did the writer's grandparents impoverish themselves for their wedding? Support your answer with evidence from the text. [2 m]

Yes, it was a point of honour for families to impoverish themselves for such occasions. X

73. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1 m]

- 3 The writer's grandmother found her husband to be loving and considerate.
 1 The writer's grandmother was summoned into her father's presence.
 2 The wedding procession of the writer's grandparents took place.

74. How did the writer's grandparents break with tradition, and who insisted on it? [2 m]

The young couple broke with tradition and moved out of the Yen family into their own rented quarters. ✓

75. From Paragraph 2, pick out the sentence which suggests that the writer's grandmother was an independent learner. [1 m]

My grandmother taught herself Mathematics, and used it to her great advantage in her daily mahjong games. ✓

76. The tradition of foot-binding was practised in the past. Fill in the blanks with information from the text. [4 m]

Symbols of bound feet	Symbol of both their subservience and of their family's wealth.
How foot-binding affected daily life of woman	squeezing the toes painfully inwards and permanently arresting the foot's growth
Possible consequence of not following this tradition	not prized by Chinese men.

77. Which two-word phrase in the passage tells you that the writer's grandmother was quick-witted and mean in her remarks? [1 m]

razor-sharp tongue

78. Was the writer's grandfather a disciplined man? Support your answer with evidence from the text. [2 m]

~~No~~ Grandfather never gambled or wasted his money in brothels and opium dens. By the time he was forty, he had accumulated considerable wealth.

79. Why did the writer's grandfather decide to sell his business despite it being profitable? [2 m]

He was prone to seasickness and hated to set foot on one of his sampans.

80. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3 m]

	True/ False	Reason
The writer's grandparents were <u>strangers</u> before the wedding.	True	Grandfather entered into an arranged marriage through a professional match-maker. ✗
The writer's grandmother had <u>distorted</u> feet.	True	Writer remembered her as a chain smoker with bound feet. ✗
The writer's grandfather made his fortune by taking over the writer's great-grandfather's teahouse business.	False	He made his fortune by trading along the Huangpu River, not by taking over the teahouse. ✓